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CALCULUS.

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322. Proposed by E. B. ESCOTT, University of Michigan.

Find the equation of the curve such that the solid of revolution generated by revolving it about the x-axis shall have a volume equal to the m/nth part of the volume of the circumscribed cylinder.

323. Proposed by C. N. SCHMALL, New York City.

From what height must an elastic ball be dropped in order that, after impact with the hard surface of the sidewalk, it may rebound to a given altitude a in the least possible time from the moment of descent?

324. Proposed by V. M. SPUNAR, Chicago, Ill.

A parabola slides between two rectangular axes; find (a) the locus of the focus, and (b) the locus of the vertex.

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NOTES AND NEWS.

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In the May, 1911, number of the *Mathematical Gazette*, page 93, there occurs the following statements: "If modern American text-books in arithmetic offer any criterion of the teaching of the subject in the States, it would appear that America lags behind this country (England) and, indeed, most European countries. For the most part they are characterized by a drab monotony of treatment, by a lack of vitality, and by an entire absence of any correlation with other branches of a mathematical education."   M.

Macmillan and Company recently issued volume II of the *Theory of Determinants* in the historical order of development by Dr. Thomas Muir, Superintendent of Education in Cape Colony, Africa. This volume covers the period from 1841 to 1860 and is very similar to volume I in general arrangement. It shares also with volume I the decided defect that the articles quoted are not always assigned to the year of publication but they frequently bear an earlier date, in case such a date appears at the end of the article. In a historical work this arrangement is very confusing since it is not in accord with the present common practice. For instance, if one reads, on page 81 of this book, that the second edition of the "Elementary theorems relating to the determinants, by Spottiswoode, appeared in Crelle's Journal in 1853, and then turns to page 46, volume I, of the *Encyklopaedie der Mathematischen Wissenschaften* and finds the date 1856 assigned to the same article, one is naturally annoyed. Some of the most careful works of reference, like the *Encyclopédie des Sciences Mathématiques*, give both the date of publication and also the date when the article is supposed to have been completed, in case the latter is known. When only one date is given it should always be the former, according to modern practice.   M.